

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

D-53

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Spocott

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Rt. 343, .3 miles east of Castle Haven Rd. —NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

☒ VICINITY OF

1st

STATE

Maryland

CODE

24

COUNTY

Dorchester

CODE

019

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

George M. Radcliffe

STREET & NUMBER

300 Academy Street

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

21613

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Dorchester County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

High Street

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Maryland Historic Sites Survey

DATE

July, 1975

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Spocott is located about 6 miles west of Cambridge, south of Rte. 343, on the eastern shore of Gary Creek, in Dorchester County, Maryland. Commanding an impressive view down the Creek towards the Little Choptank River, the house is set on low land, the northwest corner of the house being just a few yards from the banks of the Creek. Spocott is a $1\frac{1}{2}$ -story frame T-shaped building. The section comprising the top of the T, at the northern end of the house, was probably built in 1867; its roof ridge runs east-west. The base of the T is essentially a room wide and was built in two distinct sections, with the roof ridge running north-south. In the 18th century the middle section was built onto the original 17th century house, now at the southern end. The house is clapboarded in yellow pine, painted white, and the framing of the 17th century section is said to be black gum and oak. The house sits on brick piers, and has thirteen gable dormers, all of which have 6 over 6 lights. The windows on the ground floor also have 6 over 6 lights. The porches, which are on three sides of the building, are all 20th-century additions.

The 19th century section, essentially two rooms on either side of a central hall, was intended to contain the formal entrance, but it was probably never used as such. The three-bay facade has a center door with a transom and a window to either side. In the asphalt-shingled roof are three gable dormers with clapboarded sides. Two chimneys arise from the gable roofline; one is off-center to the left, the other is at the right end. A porch, partly screened, was added later across the front. Still visible at the original cornice of the house are large Italianate brackets. The eastern gable end of this section of the house has two windows on the first level and one above. The overhanging roof has Italianate brackets.

The east facade of the house is the main approach, and the main entrance today is through a screened porch which covers the lower level. The 18th century section, whose roofline is slightly lower than the 19th century section, is just two rooms long, one deep. There is a central door with a window on each side, and two gabled dormers in the roof. These dormers resemble the ones on the 19th century section, but have planked sides instead of clapboard. Also, they have more steeply pitched roofs than the others. There are two chimneys in this section: one at the southern end, and the other off-center to the south, and on the western slope of the roof.

The southernmost portion of the eastern facade, the 17th century section, is also the lowest; the roof ridge is a full foot below that of the 18th century section. Two rooms long and one room deep, it has four bays on the ground floor, with two doors on the outside and two windows in the center. The two dormers in the roof have planked sides, resembling the middle section, but a low-pitched roof, like those on the northern section. The southern facade of the 17th century section features an anterior chimney in the gable. There are windows on either side of the chimney, and one asymmetrically placed window on the second level to the left of it. The chimney has been rebuilt recently. The clapboards have also been recently replaced with old pine.

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

D-53
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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

The western facade, facing Gary Creek, has a modern kitchen addition on the 17th century section, and a modern kitchen and bathroom addition on the 18th century section, but the gabled dormers are visible and repeat the variations seen on the eastern facade. Between these two additions is a covered cistern which consists of a flat roof about four feet off the ground. A modern brick chimney, square unlike the rest, arises from a corner of this cistern area.

Inside, Spocott lacks any outstanding architectural details but continues to reflect its long history and many adaptations. Most of the interior detail dates from the mid-19th century, although early 20th century additions are noted, as well as some late 18th. The front hall of the 1867 section is narrow with a dog-leg staircase which features a walnut handrail which was cut in long sections and then the turns carved into it. The floor is random width pine. To the east of the hallway is the parlor. The door has raised molding and four panels. The large fireplace on the interior wall has a modest wooden mantel with pilasters. To the west of the stairhall is the master bedroom, slightly smaller than the parlor and with a smaller fireplace and mantel.

South of the stairhall are the two rooms of the 18th century section. The first is a wide living room with central fireplace on the southern wall. Separating the stairhall from this room are two wide panelled doors, about three feet wide each, said to have been made and hung by John A. L. Radcliffe himself. This living room was extensively altered in the 1920s. The floor of narrow-width pine, the brick fireplace with wooden mantel supported by brackets, and the plasterboard on the walls date from that renovation. It is also thought that the room was widened by about six feet in this 1920s remodelling. South of the living room is a sitting room, probably originally used as a hall. It features a brick fireplace on the south wall, and random-width pine floors.

The next two rooms comprise the 17th century, original part of the house. In the bedroom, the floorboards are about eight inches wide. A closed stairway ascending to the second level is panelled with wide beaded boards. Next to it, along the eastern wall, is a closet which used to be a passageway into the old kitchen. When the middle section of the house was added, a hallway to it was made by panelling off the stairway and passage to the kitchen, and thus making the bedroom private. Another doorway from the bedroom to the kitchen remains; this door is angled off at the corner to make room for the stairs above.

The southernmost room in the house was the original kitchen, and now is used as the dining room. The narrow, inch-and-a-half beaded panelling on the walls and ceiling, as well as the narrow pine floorboards were installed in an early 20th century renovation. The brick fireplace

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

10-53
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DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 3

on the southern wall has an iron crane used for hanging pots. There was originally a narrow staircase in the southeast corner of this kitchen to provide access to the room above. Once this room was divided into two rooms with separate staircases. The second floor now consists of five rooms, all lit by dormer windows. There are two rooms in the 19th century section, two rooms in the 18th century section, and the one large room, originally two, in the oldest section.

Spocott is fortunate in retaining many 19th-century outbuildings. To the immediate rear of the house is a small dairy, about six feet square. Like the house, it is white clapboard with a gable roof. The northern facade has a door, and the other three have windows. Inside, there is a brick floor about four feet below ground level with a raised cement trough around the walls.

The rest of the outbuildings are lined up along the southeastern-most edge of the yard. Most of these are thought to date from the 1850s John Radcliffe ownership. They are all one-story, whitewashed pine, and their gable facades contain the entrances. The roofs, except for the granary, are wood shingled. On the northern end is the coal shed, about eight feet square. It is clapboard with a dutch door and a small door in the second level in the gable, and it sits in its original position. South of the coal shed is the old outside kitchen, which had no provision for a fireplace; a stove was used. It too is clapboard with small windows above; it was moved from a site near the main house. The next building, also about 8 feet square, is the smokehouse, moved from its original place near the dairy. It is of vertical planks and has strap hinges. The icehouse, on its original site, is slightly larger -- about 10 x 10 -- and is covered with wide clapboard. It was converted into a stable. The next building to the south is the corn house, which has vertical slats with space inbetween. It is about 10 x 6, and was moved from a site to the south, which is now marshland. The workshop is slightly larger, about 10 x 10, is constructed of vertical planks, and was moved here from further out the driveway. The southernmost outbuilding is the granary, which is a large, vertical-planked tin-roofed building, about 30 x 15. It has an open entrance for carriages on the northern end. It was moved from the water's edge where it blocked the view as well as the breeze for the house.

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW		
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Spocott is a valuable representation of a 17th century vernacular style once prevalent in the county. H. Chandlee Forman defines a Dorchester type of house as being one-and-one-half stories, clapboarded, with small dormers, brick chimneys at gable ends -- and cites Spocott as an example of this. Unlike other houses, Spocott's additions were also 1½ stories, and it is a well-proportioned building, a low house on low land. Far from remaining static, Spocott illustrates the way a house adapts to its owners over three centuries of use. The 17th-century house was added onto in the 18th century, and further enlarged in the mid-19th. Each addition is obvious, but an attempt was made to match the dormers and otherwise present a unified whole.

Spocott is unusual in the extent to which it represents the self-sufficient community that many plantations were. Many outbuildings dating from the mid-19th century remain with little alteration. A dairy, coal house, corn crib, summer kitchen, smoke house, workshop and granary all stand on the property, and there is a reconstructed windmill nearby. Spocott is also the site of a shipbuilding operation; its docks attracted 60- and 70-foot schooners to Gary Creek.

Furthermore, Spocott was the home of several important county personages. It was patented to Stephen Gary even before Dorchester County was established; he was prominent in the founding of the county and held several appointed offices. In the 19th century, John A.L. Radcliffe was a successful shipbuilder and then farmer on the site, and he was responsible for the grandest renovations to the house. Spocott is even more remarkable for remaining in the same family for its 300 years of existence.

Spocott's history begins with the Indians. An old Indian Trail went through the property, and a legendary oak tree stood there before it died in the 20th century after 400 years of existence. The Indian Council Oak, as it was called, was reputed to be the meeting place for Indian tribes.

The first white settler on this land was Stephen Gary. Lord Baltimore granted him a survey on December 27, 1662 (5/424), and Stephen Gary received the patent for 250 acres on August 30, 1663. Stephen Gary had emigrated in 1650 from Cornwall, England, to St. Mary's County, and three years later his wife Clare followed him. In 1669, when Dorchester County was established, Governor Charles Calvert appointed him a Commissioner of the County. For the years 1675-6 and 1677-8, Stephen Gary was a Peace Commissioner, and in 1678-9 and 1680-1 he was High Sheriff.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Cullen, Marie Dixon. "The MacKeeles of Dorchester." Maryland Historical Magazine. Vol. 50, no. 4. December, 1955.
- Dorchester County Land Records, Maryland Hall of Records, Annapolis, Md.
- Earle, Swepson. The Chesapeake Bay Country. New York: Weathervane Books, 1923. pp. 395-399.
- Forman, Henry Chandlee. Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland. Easton, Md: private printing, 1934. pp. 161-3. cont'd.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATAACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2

UTM REFERENCES

A 18 397050 4270940
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a point 2200 ft. due south of BMC63 (on USGS 715 minute map, Church Creek Quadrangle) proceed southwest along bank of Gary Creek, then southeast still following Creek. At point where shore angles west, proceed due north approximately 450 ft., then due west approximately 100 ft. to point of origin.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Alison K. Hoagland student

ORGANIZATION

George Washington University

DATE

10/7/77

STREET & NUMBER

905 E. Capitol St.

TELEPHONE

543-7394

CITY OR TOWN

Washington

STATE

D.C. 20003

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 4

In 1678, Stephen Gary received 85 pounds of tobacco as payment for his service in the campaign against the Nanticoke Indians.² Stephen Gary was apparently a man of stature in his community, and he had some wealth; by his death in 1686 he had accumulated some 1350 acres besides Spocott.

The name Spocott most likely comes from Cornwall, England; in his will (4/202) Stephen Gary bequeathes to his wife Clare some land in Cornwall, and there is a family name "Specott" there in the 17th century. Stephen Gary bequeathed Spocott to his wife for the remainder of her life, then it was to be divided between two of their daughters, Susannah and Clare. Clare later married Charles Powell, who was the first lawyer in the county; in 1692 he and three other lawyers organized the first bar association. On August 9, 1695, Charles Powell had Spocott surveyed. It is thought that this is when Clare, Stephen Gary's wife, died, and that it was then divided between the two daughters.

It is unknown exactly when the oldest section of the house was built. Stephen Gary could have built it soon after 1663, or it is also likely that Charles Powell built it at his accession in 1695. At any rate, Powell did not live there long; he died in June, 1700, and left the house to his wife Clare for the remainder of her life.

Clare then married Thomas MacKeele; their grandson, John, was made a Captain in November, 1776, served in the Revolutionary War, and died in 1798, his wife Mary having died earlier that year.³ It is this Captain John MacKeele (McKeel) who is found owning Spocott in the Tax Assessment of 1783 (Dorchester County Middle District, p.15). The 150 acres called Spocott contain at this time "1 fram'd Dwelling House 1 Fram'd Kitchen 1 barn 1 milk house 3 log'd houses orch. & garden," and is assessed at £280. MacKeele is also seen owning 15 slaves, valued at £752, 8 horses, and 23 cattle, and 11 white inhabitants live on the land. Although it is unknown exactly when the middle section of the house was built, the high assessment of the land indicates that the building is substantial, and it is probable that Captain John MacKeele is responsible for the alteration.

The next important figure to arise from Spocott is John Anthony LeCompte Radcliffe, a direct descendant of Stephen Gary. Although Spocott always remained in the same family, it was in the hands of later descendants when John A.L. Radcliffe bought it June 2, 1849 (WJ5/13). Radcliffe immediately built a shipbuilding yard on the property, which continued in operation until the Civil War, when he built a granary on the site. Radcliffe also erected a windmill on his property, at the mouth of Gary Creek; it was reconstructed in 1971. In the 1877 atlas, John A.L. Radcliffe is listed as a "farmer" owning 500 acres.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 5

In his 1851 ledger^{4/}, John A.L. Radcliffe lists "Cost of our house" including 3000 feet of white pine planks. This was thought to go into a renovation of the existing house, particularly re-covering it with clapboard. His 1867 ledger lists payments to various workers on his house, including painting, plastering, and laying brick; it is thought that this refers to the building of the front, northern section.

John A. L. Radcliffe, prominent in his own right, was also the father of Senator George L. Radcliffe, although it was George's brother, Thomas Broome Radcliffe, who acceded to the ownership and was responsible for some alterations in the 1910s and '20s. Spocott remains in the family today, a testament to its own adaptability and the way of life that it supported.

- 1/ H. C. Forman, Early Manor..., p. 163.
- 2/ E. Jones, New Revised History..., p. 288.
- 3/ M.D. Cullen, "The MacKeeles...", p. 306.
- 4/ Ledgers in possession of George M. Radcliffe.

ITEM NUMBER 9 CONTINUED

- Jones, Elias. New Revised History of Dorchester County, Maryland.
Cambridge, Md.: Tidewater Publishers, 1966, orig. pub. 1925.
- McGrain, John W. "A Windmill Stages a Comeback." Maryland Magazine.
Summer, 1977. pp. 12-13.
- Works Progress Administration. Maryland: A Guide to the Old Line State.
New York: Oxford Univ. Press, 1973. orig. pub. 1940. p. 404.
- The 1877 Atlases and other early maps of the Eastern Shore of Maryland.
Wicomico Bicentennial Commission: Bicentennial Edition, 1976.
- Interview with George M. Radcliffe at Spocott. September 24, 1977.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

1. NAME				
COMMON: Spocot				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: Rt 343, .3 mile east of Castle Haven Road				
CITY OR TOWN: Cambridge				
STATE: Maryland		COUNTY: Dorchester		
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment		<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ _____ _____				
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: George M. Radcliffe				
STREET AND NUMBER: 300 Academy Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Cambridge		STATE: Maryland		21613
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Dorchester County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER: High Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Cambridge		STATE: Maryland		21613
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): JFD 32/575				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY:				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:		

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Spocot is one of the best known of Dorchester County's dwelling houses. It is unique in many ways, its plan and composition, as well as, its setting and outbuildings. The house is a "T"-shaped dwelling, with the base of the "T" being the earlier portion of the house. The top of the "T" was built by John Anthony LeCompte Radcliffe in 1868, the same gentleman who built the school which now stands on the Windemere property. Like the school, this portion of the house has a heavy bracketed cornice. It is three bays long and two bays deep, with a porch across its north facade. Three dormers light the second story, and between the dormers two large chimneys rise above the "A" roof.

Behind this portion stretches the earlier part of the house, its composition is like Jones' Regulation and several houses in the Neck District. The one irregularity about the appearance of this part is the position of the chimney in the taller of the two parts, i.e. in the center of the house. Possibly this was moved from the gable as a result of the construction of the wing, by John Radcliffe. That part of the house has a screened porch along its east facade and some extensions on the west. The lower portion is four bays long and, like the former has, two dormers on each side of its "A" roof. A chimney rises between the two sections, servicing the two rooms within. On the south gable is a huge kitchen fireplace built on the outside of the building.

Of interest is the unusual floor plan of the kitchen wing, with the stair rising between the two rooms, and there being a former door between the east wall and beginning of the stair. Originally, there was also a board partition extending from the stair to the fireplace wall making a corridor between the kitchen and what is now a bedroom. Most of the interior trim dates from the early and mid-19th century, although the kitchen walls and ceiling are sheathed with the type beaded board used around the turn of the century. (1890-1920)

The interior of the later portion is very similar to the interior of Travers House, closeby.

On the property are a row of mid-19th century outbuildings, mostly constructed by John Radcliffe, including: coal and potatoe house, old summer kitchen, smoke house, stable, formerly an ice house and having an interesting construction, corn crib, shop, and granary.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

B. SIGNIFICANCE**PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)**AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Architecturally, Spocot is an interesting and unique vernacular structure and one of the most well-known of Dorchester County's dwellings.

Spocot was originally patented to Stephen Gary, in 1662, who was active in the political development of the County in the 17th century. In the nineteenth century John Radcliffe, a descendant of Stephen Gary, had a shipyard on the property as well as a community which maintained the plantation economy. John Radcliffe's son, George, was a U.S. Senator from Maryland.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Earle, Swepson, The Chesapeake Bay Country, Remington and Putnam, Baltimore, 1938.
 Forman, H. C., Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland, 1934, p. 163.
 Laskowski Papers, 1955, p. 282.
 Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State, Oxford University Press, New York, 1941.
 Wilson, E. B., Maryland's Colonial Mansions, A. S. Barnes & Company, 1965, p. 81.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

District 7, Map 29, p. 41

#9 continued

Wilstach, Paul, Tidewater Maryland, Bobbs-Merrill,
 Indiannapolis, 1931.

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

July, 1975

STREET AND NUMBER:

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN:

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

21401

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

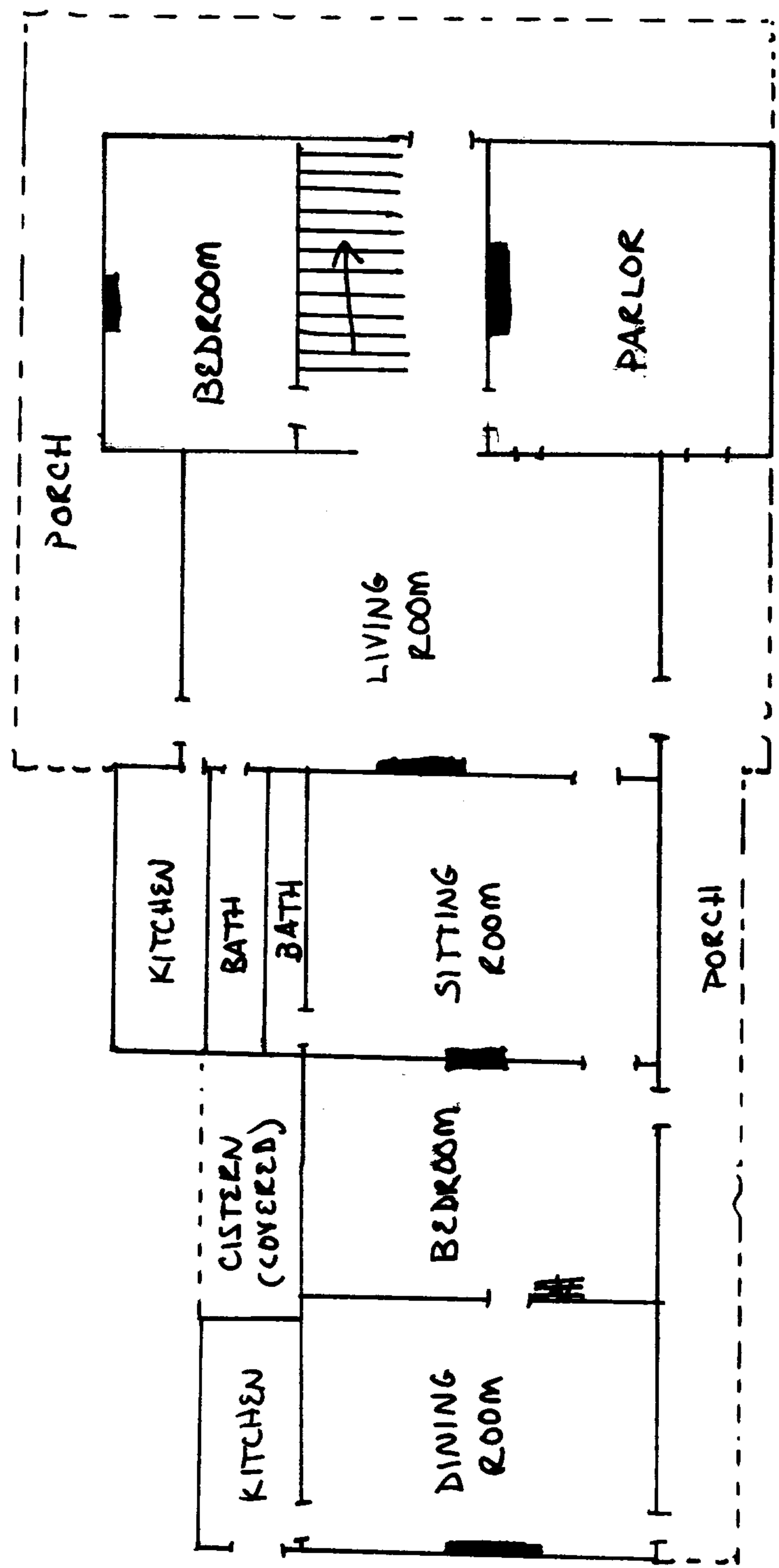
National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

A.K. HOAGLAND
10/6/77

17TH CENTURY 18TH CENTURY 19TH CENTURY

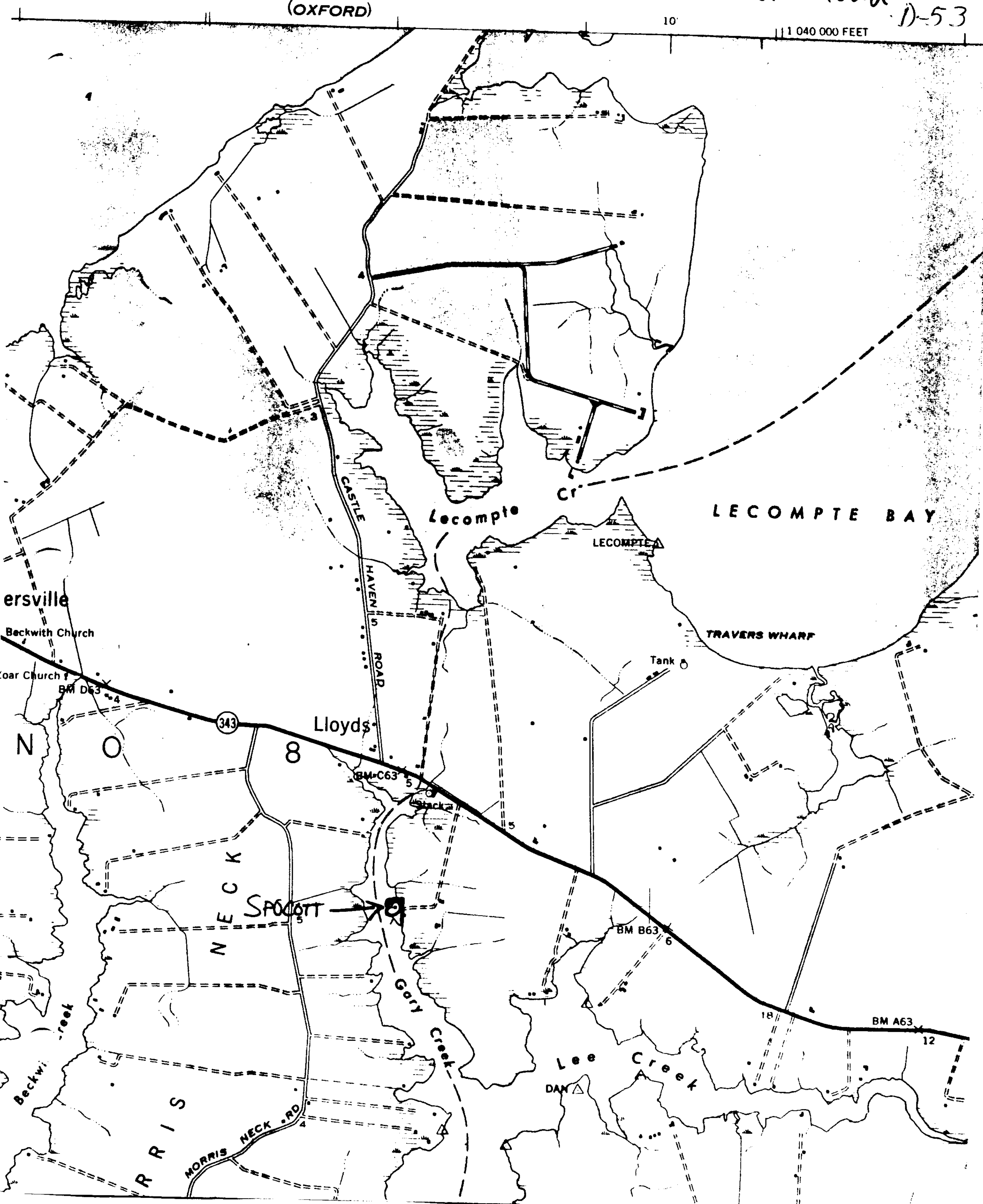


SPCOTT
(NOT TO SCALE)

(OXFORD)

10'

1 040 000 FEET





D-53

Spocott

2 SHOTS: (2.4) @ 123% (D-53) @ 50% .12X1.36 D-53



Spacet

D-53

W. Bourne July 1975